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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Proposals for the revision of the scales of pay of Deputy Inspectors of Schools and of School Assistants are under the consideration of Government.

Libraries

Removal of the University Library from the Connemara Library and progress in the construction of the University Library buildings.

*850 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the foundation stone for the University Library buildings was laid, and how much money has been sanctioned for the same, and what has been done with the said sum of money;

(*b*) what practical steps have so far been taken by the University for the construction of the University Library buildings and for shifting their library from the premises of the Connemara Library; if no steps have been taken, why not; and

(*c*) what steps the Government propose to take to see that the University authorities make early arrangements for the construction and removal of their library from the Connemara Library premises so as to relieve congestion in the said premises and to avert damage to books?

A.—(*a*) The foundation stone on the 'Marine Villa' site was laid by the Vice-Chancellor on the 27th August 1926. The grants given for the construction of the buildings by the Government of India and the Local Government in 1913 amounted to Rs. 6·24 lakhs. This sum, together with the interest thereon, has now increased nearly to Rs. 12 lakhs and has been set apart for expenditure on the construction of the buildings.

(*b*) The Marine Villa site was handed over by Government to the University in 1923 for the construction of the University Library buildings. Block plans and estimates for the buildings have been prepared and approved by the Syndicate and detailed plans and estimates are under preparation. The University originally expected to shift its library from the premises of the Connemara Public Library in December 1928 on the assumption that the new building scheme would have proceeded so far as to permit of the transfer of the library by that time. The Marine Villa site has since been declared by the Chief Engineer to be unsuitable and the University is considering the question of securing another site for the construction of the library buildings.

(*c*) The need for an early removal of the University library from the Connemara Library premises has already been brought to the notice of the University authorities.

Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed:—"May I know, Sir, the reason for this inordinate delay in erecting the building for the University library?"

The hon. the President:—"I think the various stages and the difficulties at each stage are mentioned in the answer already given."

Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed:—"I wish to know the particular cause for this delay, Sir."

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The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is not admissible."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" May I know what amount was contributed by the Government of India and what amount by the local Government ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I cannot give that information off-hand."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—' May I know how much money was spent on this Marine Villa scheme ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I cannot give that information either off-hand."

Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED :—" May I know when the building is likely to be completed ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I cannot give any definite information."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" May I know who advised about the suitability of the Marine Villa scheme ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I want notice."

Progress in the classification of books in the University Library.

*851 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the classification of books in the University Library will be completed ; what is the progress so far made, in what period of time and at what cost ;

(*b*) what attempts, if any, have been made by the Government to bring out a complete, up-to-date and consolidated catalogue of books in the Connemara Library, and when the same will be made available to the public ;

(*c*) when a complete catalogue was first published ; and

(*d*) whether any additional staff is required for this purpose, and if so, whether the Government will sanction the same ?

A.—(*a*) The University Library is not under the control of the Government. The hon. Member may obtain the requisite particulars from the Syndicate of the University.

(*b*) & (*d*) Proposals for the employment of a temporary staff for the preparation of a consolidated catalogue of the books in the library are under the consideration of the Government. The Principal Librarian states that, if the temporary staff is sanctioned, the work will be ready for the Press by March 1929.

(*c*) The first author catalogue of the books in the library was published in 1908 and supplementary lists were subsequently issued every three or four years.